

CHILDREN AND PARENTS



Colossians 3:20-21

Introduction:



The task of parenting is one of the most challenging and rewarding tasks in life.

Parenting is also a task for which we get very little training.

That is why it is important that we understand what God has to say about the family and our role as parents.

I. The Duty of Children.

COLOSSIANS 3:20



Children, obey your parents.

- Obey means to listen and follow their instruction.
- In everything – in every area.
- The context is a Christ centered family.

When children obey their parents,

- It pleases God. Colossians 3:20
- It is the right thing to do. Ephesians 6:1
- It follows Jesus' example. Luke 2:51-52
- It is also for our good.



Children, honor your parents.

*"Honor your father and mother"
—which is the first commandment
with a promise— "that it may go well
with you and that you may enjoy long
life on the earth."*

To honor means to hold
in high regard.



How will you apply this instruction?

II. The Duty of Parents.

COLOSSIANS 3:21



The command is addressed to fathers because they have the primary responsibility as head of the home.

In the Roman world, children were treated like property.

Scripture changes that. It puts parenting in the context of the Christian life.

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness and love are all important in parenting.

Colossians 3:1-17

Children are a gift from God. Psalm 127:3



God loves children.

- Jesus' example of welcoming the little children. Mark 10:13-16
- Jesus' warning not to cause one of these little ones to sin.

"And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." Matthew 18:5-6



Do not embitter your children.

Do not exasperate them. Ephesians 6:4

- To embitter means to provoke to anger.
- To exasperate means to cause to lose heart or give up.



Children Learn What They Live

by Dorothy Law Nolte

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.

If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.

If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy.

If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.

If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.

If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.

If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.

If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.
 If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.
 If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and others.
 If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.

Teach and train your children.
“Bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.” Ephesians 6:4



- Bring up means to nurture or raise.
- Training involves discipline and correction.
- Instruction involves teaching and showing them how.
- All of this is to be done “in the Lord”.

What is the best advice you could give new parents about raising children?

1. Love abundantly.
2. Discipline constructively.
3. Spend time together.
4. Give priority to personal and marital needs.
5. Teach right from wrong.
6. Develop mutual respect.
7. Listen actively.
8. Offer guidance.
9. Foster independence.
10. Be realistic.

From the National Institute of Mental Health

Conclusion:



The best environment for a child to grow is a home where there is love, discipline and acceptance.



Children, how will you honor your parents?



Parents, how will you help your children to grow in the Lord in all areas of life?